

June, I watched a female lay a single egg, each on the stem of a floret on one of the bushes. Later, on return from holiday, I found the remains of the eggs but could not find any larvae. Some time later still, however, I noticed that some of the green berries near where I had seen the eggs had small erosions as if larvae had been attempting to eat into them but they had not managed to get inside.— JOHN OWEN, 8 Kingsdown Road, Epsom, Surrey KT17 3PU.

**The Holly Blue, *Celastrina argiolus* L., ovipositing on *Pyracantha*.**

In view of the note by Mr C.W. Plant strongly pointing to the latter as one of the foodplants of *C. argiolus* (*antea*. 41-3), it may be worth reporting that my friend Dudley Collins definitely saw a first-brood female ovipositing on a flower-bud of the firethorn in his garden at Carshalton Beeches, Surrey, three of four years ago. As soon as she had departed, he was able to locate a single egg. Like myself, he was rather surprised to learn that *Pyracantha* was not yet recognised as a foodplant of the butterfly. Admittedly, one egg does not amount to positive proof that larvae would have fed up on this host, but, taken in conjunction with the experience of other observers, it comes near to doing so.— A.A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London SE7 8QG.

***Hellula undalis* Fabr. (Lep.: Pyralidae) in 1989.**

I was pleased to take, despite it being a micro, the third British specimen of this rare immigrant species at Eastbourne, East Sussex, on 23rd October and two more at Littlehampton, West Sussex, on 30th October. Previously *H. undalis* had been recorded from South Devon in 1967 and Cornwall in 1988, and this year single specimens have also been reported from Studland, Dorset, on 24th October by D.C.G. Brown and from Freshwater, Isle of Wight, on 26th October by S.A. Knill-Jones.

Returning to the nights of my captures: at Eastbourne the *H. undalis* appeared well after midnight and was accompanied by *Palpita unionalis* Hb., *Plutella xylostella* L., *Rhodometera saccharia* L. and other immigrant species. A number of these moths were clearly seen approaching from a southerly direction and both Mark Parsons, who was present, and I felt we were witnessing their actual arrival from the Continent.

In complete contrast the two *H. undalis* at Littlehampton appeared in the two hours following dusk as did a host of other migrant species which included six *Spodoptera exigua* Hb., five *Mythimna loreyi* Dup., two *M. unipuncta* Haw. and single examples of *Palpita unionalis* Hb., *Mythimna albipuncta* D. & S., *M. vitellina* Hb., *Heliothis armigera* Hb., *Trichoplusia ni* Hb. and *Chrysodeixis acuta* Walk. Resident species continued to appear after this time, but no further migrants suggesting that the above had arrived at the earliest the previous night, if not before.— BERNARD SKINNER, 5 Rawlings Close, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 8JS.